

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, line 4, under the section entitled "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" please delete:

Not applicable.

and insert:

This application is a continuation-in-part of and claims the benefit of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/189,562 filed on November 11, 1998, now Patent No. 6,314,986 B1, issued on November 13, 2001, which claims priority to GB 9724168, filed on November 14, 1997.

Claim for Priority

Applicants hereby claim the priority under Title 35, United States Code, section 120, to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/189,562 filed on November 11, 1998 (the '562 application), now Patent No. 6,314,986 B1, issued on November 13, 2001, which claims priority under Title 35, United States Code, section 119, to GB 9724168, filed on November 14, 1997.

In support of the foregoing claim for priority, Applicants note that the present application, filed on August 8, 2000, was copending with the '562 application prior to the issuance of U.S. Patent No. 6,314,986 B1. In addition, the present application was filed by inventors including two named in the previously filed '562 application. The common inventors are Dao-Hong Zheng and John